

**CITY OF LODI
INFORMAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING
"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2006**

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, February 7 2006, commencing at 7:05 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members – Beckman, Hansen, Johnson, Mounce, and Mayor Hitchcock

Absent: Council Members – None

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Blackston

B. TOPIC(S)

- B-1 "Presentation on 2005 Urban Water Management Plan, update on surface water treatment plant, and proposed Recycled Water Master Plan"

Public Works Director Prima explained that the Urban Water Management Plan is required by the State every five years. It will be brought to Council for approval in March. He mentioned that on February 9 the Woodbridge Irrigation District (WID) Board will vote on whether to approve the City's request to extend by four years the period of time Lodi can bank water under its agreement. Mr. Prima recommended that the City proceed with a surface water treatment plant.

With the aid of an overhead presentation (filed), Glenn Hermanson, Project Manager for RMC Water and Environment, stated that there would be a two-week public review period for the Water Management Plan. A 1.5% growth rate was used in its preparation. In 2005, Lodi used 17,300 acre feet of water. The groundwater levels in Lodi are decreasing at a rate of five inches per year. The City has a contract with WID for 6,000 acre feet of surface water from the Mokelumne River for a 40-year period. Some of the City's treated effluent is recycled and used to irrigate farmland near the treatment plant. Based on recent calculations, it was determined that Lodi's sustainable yield from the groundwater is 15,000 acre feet per year. Available recycled water will grow from 7,200 acre feet per year in 2005 to approximately 10,380 acre feet in 2030. Without water meters, the City will exceed its groundwater and surface water supplies in 2018 and with water meters this is delayed to 2029.

In reply to Council Member Mounce, Mr. Prima reported that staff is working with Stockton on studies for its use of Lodi's recycled water. City staff will be submitting a grant application to the State. He noted, however, that if this project were to occur it would take away the recycled water supply that could otherwise be counted in Lodi's Urban Water Management Plan.

Wally Sandelin, City Engineer, recalled that in November 2005 staff gave a presentation to Council on alternatives for the WID surface water action plan and has now developed a conceptual schedule for implementation of the "treat and drink" option, in which a water treatment facility would be built with transmission facilities throughout the community. In March, staff will ask Council for authorization to begin soliciting consultant services to begin the initial studies. The project is estimated at up to \$25 million, which would be paid entirely by new development. The plant could be online within four years and would involve chlorination of all the City's water.

Mayor Hitchcock asked that staff provide Council with more information on groundwater recharge options.

Mr. Prima explained that he is recommending the surface water treatment plant, due to considerations related to wastewater discharge salinity requirements and the long-term sustainability of agriculture and urban life in the valley. He believed that salt build up in the Central Valley would be a significant issue in the future. The standard water quality goal for the Delta is 450 total dissolved solids (TDS) and the City's discharge is now 440 TDS. The proposed treatment plant would lower the salinity of the wastewater, making it more suitable for reuse. He acknowledged that, due to the size of the Westside project, it is feasible that development could help finance the plant; however, development fees would have to be increased substantially to accomplish it.

Council Member Beckman commented that if the City does not have facilities in place to do groundwater recharge there will be no opportunities to partner with other water entities on such a project. Mr. Beckman stated that he was very much in favor of groundwater recharge.

City Attorney Schwabauer stated that, according to the information provided by the water consultants, the projected growth in the City's water demand would make it appropriate to place the entire cost of the treatment plant on new development.

Mayor Hitchcock pointed out that it appears the treatment plant option is being recommended based upon the proposed Westside development. She recalled staff had previously supported the groundwater recharge option.

Council Member Mounce felt that a decision should be made expediently with consideration to the future, long-term value of water.

C. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

D. ADJOURNMENT

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 a.m.

ATTEST:

Susan J. Blackston
City Clerk